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8 NOVEMBER 1951

FROM SMITH PERSONALLY.

A CONFERENCE TODAY WITH J. EDGAR HOOVER DEVELOPED NO DISAGREEMENT WHATEVER BETWEEN US ON PRINCIPLES GOVERNING OPERATIONS ABROAD OF FBI AND CIA. WE REALIZE FULLY THAT ON ACTIVITIES AFFECTING SECURITY OF U.S. IT IS ESSENTIAL THERE BE CLOSE WORKING RELATIONS BOTH IN INTEREST OF EFFICIENCY AND TO AVOID CHANCE OF FOREIGN SERVICE PLAYING US OFF AGAINST EACH OTHER. MUCH OF THIS DEPENDS TO LARGE EXTENT ON LOCAL PERSONALITIES CONCERNED AND I WISH THAT YOU, ON YOUR PART, WOULD DO THE UTMOST TO ESTABLISH CLOSE AND FRIENDLY MUTUAL CONTACT. YOU UNDERSTAND I AM SURE THAT FBI LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES HAVE PRIMARY MISSION LIAISON WITH POLICE FOR CRIMINAL MATTERS INVOLVING VIOLATION OF U.S. LAWS, WHILE CIA MAJOR RESPONSIBILITY IS COUNTER-ESPIONAGE. HOWEVER, IN ACTUAL PRACTICE IT IS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO DRAW AN ARBITRARY LINE OF DEMARCATION AND THIS IS ADDED REASON FOR CLOSE AND FRIENDLY CONTACT.

IF MATTERS AT ISSUE ARISE, THEY WILL UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES BE REFERRED TO ANY THIRD PARTY FOR LOCAL ADJUDICATION, BUT WILL BE REFERRED HERE FOR DECISION AS FBI AND CIA WILL WASH THEIR LINEN IN PRIVATE AT HOME. REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH ARE ENGAGED IN STUDY OF CLOSER WORKING RELATIONSHIP IN WASHINGTON. IF ANYTHING DEVELOPS AFFECTING YOUR OPERATIONS BEYOND POINTS DISCUSSED IN THIS MESSAGE, YOU WILL BE ADVISED.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/20/01 BY 39063elw/bce/lwb

Approved for Release by CIA
Date 5/10/02

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